

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An information recording apparatus ~~(1)~~ incorporating, comprising:

a memory device ~~(3)~~ having a defined quantity of storage space, and

an interface ~~(2)~~ for use by a user in initiating ~~the recordal~~ recording of data onto the memory device ~~(3)~~,

wherein a selected portion of the storage space of the memory device ~~(3)~~ is reserved for the recording of data in an emergency situation, and the interface ~~(2)~~ is configured such that instructions to record data to the selected portion of the memory device ~~(3)~~ are effected by first means the interface, the first means being separate from those a second means used to initiate ~~recordal~~ recording of the data in ~~the~~ a remainder of the memory device.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information recording apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the information recording apparatus is a digital video recording apparatus.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein the information recording apparatus is selected from a ~~music player/recorder~~ player, a music recorder, a digital camera, personal digital assistant ~~(PDA)~~, a personal computer ~~(PCs)~~ or a digital telephone.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information recording apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 1, 2 or 3~~ claim 1, wherein the interface is selected ~~from~~; from a remote control handset, a control panel provided on ~~the~~ a body of the apparatus or an on screen menu display from which desired operations of the recording apparatus can be selected.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information recording apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1, wherein the means for

initiating ~~recordal of a~~ the recording of data ~~item~~ to the selected portion of the memory device is embodied in ~~the~~ a form of an emergency record button.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information recording apparatus as claimed in claim 5 ~~wherein the emergency record button 1,~~ wherein the first means is in the a form of an icon provided on a screen display.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information recording apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1, further comprising an encoding device for encoding the data to be stored in the selected portion.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information recording apparatus as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1, wherein the memory device ~~consists of~~ comprises a CD, DVD, mini-disc, digital tape or a hard disk.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information recording apparatus

as claimed in ~~any preceding claim~~ claim 1, wherein the apparatus further includes a controller (4) for managing storage and retrieval operations within the memory device.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information recording apparatus as claimed in claim 9 wherein the controller (4) comprises a microprocessor (4) programmed to perform certain operations including storage and retrieval of data.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The information recording apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 9 or 10~~ claim 9, wherein the controller (4) is configured to carry out financial transactions between a user of the information recording apparatus and a supplier of data to be recorded, or a supplier of emergency memory in the selected portion of the memory device.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for storing a defined data item in an information recording apparatus ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 11 comprising;~~ comprising the acts of:

providing a first button for recording of the defined data

item in a selected portion of a storage space of a memory device;
providing a second button for recording of the defined data
item in a remainder of the memory device;
activating the first button;
~~determining the space required for storing the defined data~~
~~item;~~
~~checking the space available in the remainder of the memory~~
~~device and if the latter is less than the former;~~
~~locating a selected portion of the memory device;~~
~~downloading the defined data item from its source; and in~~
response to the act of activating the first button, recording the
defined data item onto the selected portion;
activating the second button; and
in response to the act of activating the second button,
recording the defined data item onto a remainder portion of the
memory device.

13. (Currently Amended) A The method as claimed in claim 12
~~further comprising;~~ comprising the acts of:
in response to the act of activating the first button,

determining a space required for storing the defined data item;

checking ~~the a~~ space available in the selected portion and if the available space ~~latter~~ is less than the space required for recording the defined data item, ~~reorganising the~~ reorganizing pre-recorded data in the selected portion so as to provide the space required for storing the defined data item.

14. (Currently Amended) A The method as claimed in ~~claim 13~~ wherein the step of reorganising include claim 13, wherein the act of reorganizing includes compressing the pre-recorded data stored in the selected portion.

15. (Currently Amended) A The method as claimed in ~~claim 13 or 14~~ wherein the step of reorganising claim 13, wherein the act of reorganizing includes deleting or overwriting the pre-recorded data.

16. (Currently Amended) A The method as claimed in ~~any of claims 12 to 15~~ further comprising

a step of claim 12, further comprising the act of encrypting

the defined data item.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method as claimed in claim ~~16~~
~~further comprising a step 16, further comprising the act of~~
receiving ~~authorisation~~ authorization for payment of a fee by ~~the a~~
user of the information recording apparatus and in response,
decrypting the defined data item.

18. (New) The method of claim 12, further comprising the acts
of:

in response to the act of activating the second button,
determining a memory size required for storing the defined data
item;

checking a space available in the remainder of the memory
device and if the available space is less than the required size,
then performing the acts of:

locating the selected portion of the memory device;
downloading the defined data item from a source; and
recording the defined data item onto the selected portion.

19. (New) The method of claim 13, further comprising the acts of:

deleting the pre-recorded data so as to create space in the selected portion; and

recording the defined data item onto the create space of the selected portion.

20. (New) A recording device comprising:

a memory device having a defined quantity of storage space;
and

an interface for use by a user of the recording device in initiating recording of data onto the memory device;

wherein the interface includes a first button for recording the data in a selected portion of the memory device; and a second button for recording the data in a remainder of the memory device.